

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 17, 2010

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are encouraged by your powerful statement during your first State of the Union Address: "As Iran's leaders continue to ignore their obligations, there should be no doubt: they, too, will face growing consequences." However, while economic sanctions and international isolation are necessary, we believe the greatest threat to the Iranian regime will come from the liberation of its own people. We ask you to support those fighting for freedom and democracy in Iran.

The United States must stand by the countless Iranians who have stood defiantly against the regime. We must call for the release of all political detainees and prisoners, and demand the cessation of torture, rape and other human rights violations. As the leader of the free world, the United States has a moral obligation to support the courageous men and women in Iran who are demanding freedom and democracy at risk of arrest, imprisonment, and execution. Iran's dissidents will not stop fighting. We should not stop fighting for them.

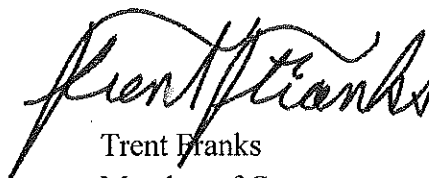
In addition, those demanding freedom have relied heavily on the internet to inform the Iranian people, organize protests, and update others worldwide about the regime's violence against its own people. We should assist Iranian dissidents by helping them to circumvent state censorship through access to relevant internet technologies, while ensuring that access to such technologies cannot be exploited by the regime in any way.

Finally, we implore you to investigate reported mismanagement and bias at Voice of America's Persian News Network (VOA-PNN). The apparent lack of oversight regarding the management, staffing, mission, and content of VOA-PNN broadcasting – an American-taxpayer-funded program – ironically may have harmed the plight of those seeking human rights, instead of helping it.

The United States, through principled rhetorical and material support, can help the Iranian people to achieve self-determination, human rights, democracy, and freedom.

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trent Franks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Trent Franks  
Member of Congress

Sharon Davis  
GA-08

Barryman

Lamar Smith

W. Collins MO-2

Barbara M.D-6

By AP 7/13 PA-16

Jim Shults OK-2

May Tallin OK-5

Philip L. Allen

Mark Griffith

John H. Hoke AZ-3

David L. Schmidt TX-1

K-784 TX-11

Pete Olson TX-22

Phil Gingrey GA-11

Adrian G. G. UT-1

Paul Ryan WI-01

Steve King

Jim B. Binkley

Eric Cantor VT-3

Lynn A. Jenkins

MO-6

Robert B. Aderholt

Robert E. Datta

K. Y. Z. Z.

John Culberson

Bill Posey

Lynn Jenkins

Sue Myrick

Rodney Alexander

Steve Scalet

Jim J. J.

~~John J. J.~~

Bob Goodlatte

Jo Bonner

John J. (IL-19)

John J. J.

John J. J.

Michael T. McEl

Wally Hoge

Scott Garrett NJ-5

~~Ammon~~

Doug J. J.

Cynthia M. Sumner

Joe Barton

Howard P. B. J.

Van Burton

Honore Cable

March 17, 2010

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SL Royce

John Hachester

Sheldon A. McCall

Carolyn McHenry Rodger

Marsha Blackman

Roy Blunt

Lawrence Kingston

John Boehner

Paula Carter

D. Richter

Shana Rose Lehtinen

Jerry Moran

Virginia Fox

Alan Kain

Mike Coffe

M. Chis

Dan Runkle

Connie Mack

Aaron Schock

JOE Wilson